

Larchmont Avenue Church

60 Forest Park Avenue
Larchmont, New York 10538
(914) 834-1800

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY November 26, 2023

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum
Associate Pastor: Rev. Anna Grace Claunch
Director of Music: Douglas Kostner

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 26, 2023

PRELUDE

Simple Gifts
Debra Whitman, harp

Shaker Tune

INTROIT

Enter God's Gates Douglas Kostner
Enter God's gates with thanksgiving! Enter God's courts with praise! Make a joyful noise to God!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*inspired by Psalm 100*)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship with gladness and singing!

Know that the Lord is God. It is she who made us, and we are hers.

We are God's people, the sheep of her pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Know that God reigns! God's kingdom comes!

For the Lord is good; her faithfulness is from generation to generation. Let us worship God!

***THE PEACE**

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

***OPENING HYMN #267** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Shepherding God, you have called to us, but we have not answered. You have sought us out, but we have continued to wander. You have tenderly gathered us together and cared for us, but we have not extended that same care and mercy to others. Forgive us. Remind us. Teach us. Set us free from sin that we might turn toward your love and justice for the whole world. Guide us so that, tentative step after tentative step, we may walk your way. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORIA PATRI**

Hymn 580

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*in unison*)

Spirit, lead us as we come to hear the stories of other people in another world long ago.

We come to hear the stories that are also about us today in this place. So, God, give us ears to listen, eyes to see, and hearts to accept. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:31-40

Beverly McAllister

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

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SERMON

"Needy and Needed"

Rev. Claunch

ANTHEM

It Is a Good Thing to Give Thanks

Paul Bowman

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to give praises to your name, O Most High.

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to the Lord Most High.

To tell of your loving-kindnesses early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season;

And on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

Lord, how great are your works! Your thoughts are very deep.

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to the Lord Most High.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Bynum

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and glory forever. Amen.

THE GREAT AMEN

(congregation singing)

Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Christmas Gift Program

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Claunch

Financial gifts may be shared electronically via the Realm Connect app or by scanning the QR code to the right. Additional pledge cards are available at the Usher Station at the rear of the sanctuary.



OFFERTORY

Harvest Hymn

Percy Grainger

Alex Pak, violin; Ben Wien, piano

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 607

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #187

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us (verses 1 & 4)

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Claunch

POSTLUDE

Bradbury

Rebecca Bonam

Alex Pak, violin; Ben Wien, piano

*NOTE: You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude,
but there is no expectation that you remain seated at this time.*

**please stand if you are able.*

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's flowers are in memory of Sterling Black by Jay Barnes.

Your voice and presence would be a gift to our worship! If you would be willing to be please scan the QR code to the right or email the office at broodal@lacny.org.

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please scan the QR code to the right or contact the office at broodal@lacny.org to sign-up for upcoming Sunday!



- **Nursery Care:** Available on the ground floor of the education wing (Classroom 114) for infants and toddlers age 2 and below.
- **Sunday School Today:** Following the Children's Message, kids ages 3 through 5th grade are dismissed for Sunday School.



JOIN LAC IN SHARING HOLIDAY CHEER!

Help LAC bring Christmas cheer to our neighbors in need so that they know the true hope and joy that Christmas promises. The **LAC Christmas Gift program** is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to demonstrate our willingness to help the less fortunate among us while we celebrate the spirit of giving. We are looking for LAC members to provide wrapped Christmas gifts or gift cards for 25 individuals in 10 families this year. Each family will also receive a gift basket filled with Christmas goodies.

There are two ways you can help.

1. **Adopt an individual** by signing up today during coffee hour, or through the sign up genius link that will be emailed home this week. Gift wish lists are provided.
2. **Donate funds.** The C&C committee will use monetary donations to purchase holiday treats, hats, scarves, small games, body lotion, and food gift cards to fill a basket for each family. Donations can be made on the LAC website by selecting Holiday Gifts in the dropdown menu on the giving page, or by mailing a check to LAC with Holiday Gifts on the memo line. **We have been overwhelmed by your generosity in the past and have faith that it will continue this year as well.**

Please note that LAC is preparing to partner with Bridges to Community this coming February, a non-profit organization focused on providing service-learning opportunities. LAC is sending a team to the Dominican Republic! Any surplus funds collected for the Christmas Gift program will be directed to supporting the purchase of building material for the house they will construct. We feel you'll agree that this is an opportunity to share our Christmas bounty!

Thank you!

Church & Community Committee

THIS WEEK AT LAC

Sunday Nov. 26

Sunday School	10:00 AM (Carhart)
Worship	10:00 AM (Sanctuary)
Coffee Hour	11:15 AM (Russell Hall)

Monday Nov. 27

LMBA Meeting	6:30 PM (Carhart)
Session Meeting	7:00 PM (Library)

Tuesday Nov. 28

Al Anon	6:45 PM (Library)
AA	7:15 PM (Carhart)
Westchester Chorale	7:30 PM (Chapel)

Wednesday Nov. 29

Staff Meeting	11:00 AM (Lindsley)
TGIF	5:00 PM (Youth Room)
SHIFT	6:15 PM (Youth Room)
Symphonia	7:00 PM (Chapel)
Chancel Choir	7:45 PM (Russell Hall)

Thursday Nov. 30

Westch. Children's Chorus	4:00 PM (Russell Hall, Sanctuary, Chapel, Carhart, Room 202)
AA	7:15 PM (Carhart)

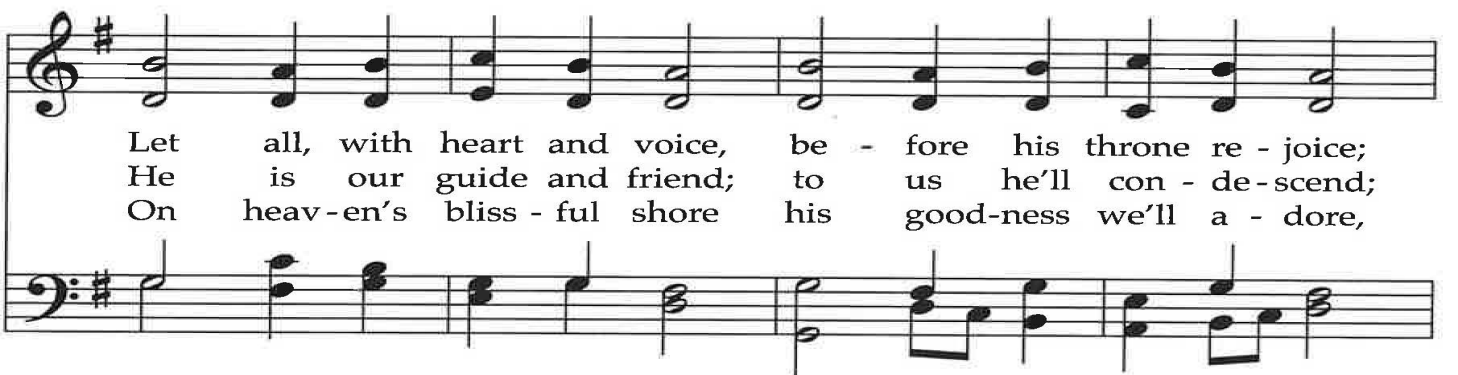
267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,



praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187

1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.

In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

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This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.